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**FISCAL YEAR 2002
CHILD AND ADULT CARE FOOD PROGRAM
OPERATIONAL MEMO #12**

TO: Child and Adult Care Food Program Sponsors

FROM: Peggy Pawelek Brown, Manager
Food and Nutrition Program

DATE: May 16, 2002

SUBJECT: Food Buying Guide for Child Nutrition Programs

The newly revised Food Buying Guide for Child Nutrition Programs (PA 1331) is now available. This new guide replaces the 1984 edition. It has been updated to add new foods and to reflect changes in processing technology or packaging that may affect yields. For example, many organizations now purchase ready-to-serve salads and pre-cut vegetables. These were not widely available the last time the guide was revised in 1984. The new guide:

is the most comprehensive to date. It includes over five hundred new food items or new pack sizes, each carefully tested in a food service setting using the equipment and methods that would be used in a typical food service setting.

has a new look, with an updated design. The yield data tables, however, appear in a familiar format so you can continue to use them easily.

is packed with helpful information. For example, a series of variations of practical examples serves as a how-to-guide for working with the yield data tables.

contains updated meal pattern charts.

has the following appendices:

Appendix A: Recipe Analysis. This section has been added as a quick method to see if your USDA modified or locally produced recipes will provide the servings that you need for your planned meal.

Appendix B: Determining the Number of Servings, for Crediting Purposes, from a Particular Food. This section shows how to calculate the credit of one portion of a recipe using Column 6 (Additional Information).

Appendix C: The USDA Child Nutrition (CN) Labeling Program. This section provides a brief description of the CN Label Program, what types of foods can be CN labeled, and what a CN label looks like. It also contains yield data for food items used primarily by industry.

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Appendix D: Food Purchasing. Summaries of *First Choice* and *Choice Plus* are included as a resource for purchasing foods.

Appendix E: Resources. Other resources related to food service, food preparation, food safety, meal planning, and more. There is also a quick reference guide for various Internet addresses and phone numbers.

A copy of the Food Buying Guide for Child Nutrition Programs will be mailed to you in the near future. If you have questions regarding the changes contained in the guide, please contact the CACFP staff at (517) 373-7391